



## Advanced Access Platforms - Occupational Health Policy

Occupational health is a shared responsibility. Under Law, British Waterways is responsible for the health and safety of its employees, employees have to look after their own health and safety and we all have to take care of the health and safety of others.

### Occupational health embraces:

- The effect of work on health, whether through sudden injury or through long-term.
- Exposure to agents with latent effects on health, and the prevention of occupational disease through techniques which include health surveillance, ergonomics and effective management systems;
- The effect of health on work, bearing in mind that good occupational health practice should address the fitness of the task for the employee, not the fitness of the employee for the task alone.;
- Rehabilitation and recovery programmes;
- Helping the disabled to secure and retain work.
- Managing work-related aspects of illness with potentially multi-factorial causes (e.g. musculo-skeletal disorders, coronary heart disease) and helping employees to make informed choices regarding lifestyle issues.
- To help with stress, depression, anxiety or any other mental health issues and offer help and support with whatever is needed.
- To build a better working environment;
- To strive to ensure and demonstrate that every reasonable effort has been made towards secure employment including improving working practices for the prevention of harm and the encouragement of rehabilitation and retention;
- To focus on the quality of the working environment covering welfare, occupational and wider health issues, job design, satisfaction, and workplace safety.
- To work openly and transparently with genuine and timely consultation with all relevant parties to develop solutions to problems;
- To ensure joint communication on occupational health issues;
- To jointly monitor the management of health surveillance, sickness absence and rehabilitation.
- To handle all individual cases with sympathy and understanding.

  
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